

HALTON REGION HEALTH DEPARTMENT • Office of the Medical Officer of Health

TEL: 905-825-6000 • TOLL FREE: 1-866-332-5866 • FAX: 905-825-1444

TO: Halton Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Emergency Departments

FROM: Dr. Hamidah Meghani, Medical Officer of Health

DATE: January 13, 2020

RE: Discontinuation of Rabies Immunoglobulin-Sparing Protocol

QUICK FACTS

- Provincial supply of publicly funded rabies vaccine and rabies immunoglobulin (Rablg) is now stable
- Discontinuation of Rablg sparing protocol in Ontario
- Administration of Rablg to return to regular practice using current recommendations by the [National Advisory Committee on Immunization \(NACI\)](#)

KEY MESSAGES FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

- Given the stabilization of the vaccine and Rablg supply, the administration of Rablg should now revert to regular practice using the current recommendations by NACI
- NACI Rablg administration involves the following steps:
 - Calculate the maximum dose of Rablg based on body weight (20 IU/kg)
 - Infiltrate the entire volume of Rablg at the site of the wound
 - Where this is not anatomically feasible, the remaining volume of Rablg should be injected intramuscularly at a site distant from the site of vaccine administration, using a separate needle and syringe
- Health professionals should continue to be judicious in their use of rabies vaccine and immunoglobulin, offering post-exposure prophylaxis only when indicated based on a thorough rabies risk assessment. Halton Region Public Health staff are available to assist in the risk assessment.
- Please continue to report all rabies concerns immediately to Halton Region Public Health by phone (311 or 905-825-6000) **and** fax (905-825-1444).

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Canadian Immunization Guide: [Rabies Vaccine](#)
- Halton Region webpage: [Rabies](#)

Please report all suspected/confirmed cases of [Diseases of Public Health Significance](#) (including positive TB skin test results) to Public Health immediately by calling 311, 905-825-6000 or toll free at 1-866-442-5866.

PLEASE POST IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS AND PHYSICIAN LOUNGES

IF YOU CAN'T ACCESS HYPERLINKS, PLEASE SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC UPDATES BY EMAILING DOCTORS@HALTON.CA